

Remarks

No claims have been amended. No claims have been canceled. Therefore, claims 1-16 are now presented for examination.

In a Final Office Action mailed October 26, 2005, claims 1-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Searls (U.S. Patent No. 6,752,635). In response, applicants submit a declaration pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 enclosed herewith to overcome the Searls reference.

The submitted declaration illustrates that that the present application had been conceived and reduced to practice in the United States prior to March 31, 2003, the effective filing dates of Searls. Therefore, applicants submit that the above rejection has been obviated since Searls has been overcome by the enclosed 37 C.F.R. §1.131 declaration.

Applicants emphasize that submission of the enclosed declaration pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.131 should not be construed as an acquiescence to the any of the reasons for rejection set forth in the November 26, 2004 Office Action.

Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections have been overcome, and that the claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request the rejections be withdrawn and the claims be allowed.

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: February 27, 2006

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